

### **REMARKS**

Applicants have now had an opportunity to carefully consider the Examiner's comments set forth in the Office Action of May 3, 2007.

Reconsideration of the Application is requested.

### **THE OFFICE ACTION**

**The drawings** stand objected to.

**Claim 5** stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Salim (U.S. Patent No. 6,628,653 B1).

**Claims 1, 2 and 4** stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Salim (U.S. Patent No. 6,628,653) in view of Moriwaki (U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2003/0002506).

**Claim 3** stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Salim (U.S. Patent No. 6,628,653 B1) in view of Moriwaki (U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2003/0002506), and further in view of Mizuhara (U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2002/0012348).

### **Amendments To The Drawings**

Please replace the original sheet 1 in the drawings with the submitted replacement sheet 1. Figure 1 includes change to the arrow coming out of box 200 and into box 300 as requested by the Examiner. Further, in Figure 1, the double arrow, which formerly connected boxes 120 and 130, is now replaced with a double arrow connecting boxes 130 and 140.

It is respectfully requested that the objection to the drawings be withdrawn.

### **Claims Distinguish Over Cited Prior Art**

**Claim 1** calls for among other elements: a packet information extraction portion, which extracts from a packet for identification a prescribed range of fields including at least one identifying information item which identifies the packet type; a packet judgment portion, which judges the packet type based on information in a prescribed position among said extracted fields.

**Salim** is directed to a packet processing apparatus comprising a programmable hardware discriminator for receiving incoming packets and selecting bits from any part of the incoming packets, a decision table for storing information relating to how the packets are to be processed, and the packet handler for processing the packets based on a comparison of bits to the decision table. (Abstract). In contrast, claim 1 calls for extracting a prescribed number of fields including at least one identifying information item in a prescribed position in the extracted fields. The packet type is determined based on this identifying information item which is read from the prescribed position. E.g., the packet type is judged based on the information in the prescribed number of fields. Moreover, the packet type is judged based on the information sought for in a particular, predetermined field in the extracted fields. Therefore, **Salim** (1) does not extract a prescribed range of fields; (2) does not describe that at least one of the extracted fields of the prescribed range includes an identifying information item to uniquely identify the packet type; and (3) does not describe that the packet type is determined based on the identifying information item which is sought for in a prescribed position in the extracted fields. **Moriwaki** is not concerned with routing of packets. It is therefore respectfully submitted that **claim 1 and dependent claims 2-4** distinguish patentably and unobviously over **Salim** and **Moriwaki**, taken singularly or in combination.

**Claim 5** calls for among other elements: a packet information extraction portion, which and extracts from a packet for identification a prescribed range of fields including at least one identifying information item which identifies the packet type; and a packet judgment portion, which judges the packet type based on information in a prescribed position among said extracted fields.

The arguments above regarding claim 1 are equally applicable here. It is therefore respectfully submitted that **claim 5** distinguishes patentably and unobviously over **Salim**.

**CONCLUSION**

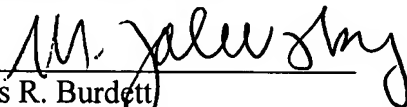
For at least the reasons detailed above, it is submitted that all claims remaining in the application (**Claims 1-5**) are in condition for allowance. The foregoing comments do not require unnecessary additional search or examination.

The undersigned attorney of record hereby authorizes charging any necessary fees, other than the issue fee, to Deposit Account No. 22-0261.

If the Examiner finds a personal contact advantageous to the disposition of this case, the Examiner is invited to call Marina Zalevsky at the telephone number listed below.

Dated: 8/1/07

Respectfully submitted,

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